



United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON  
FLORIDA

February 12, 2004

The Honorable Michael Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket No. 02-55

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I know that you have been hearing from Florida law enforcement public safety leaders and organizations and others around the country about the alarming issue of public safety communications interference in the 800 MHz spectrum band. The fact that organizations such as our Florida Highway Patrol, Florida Police Benevolent Association, Inc., Florida Police Chiefs Association, as well as the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and the National Sheriff's Association, have written the Commission reflects a significant concern that I hope the Commission will now consider.

As you know<sup>1</sup>, public safety and commercial wireless operators reside in close proximity on the 800 MHz spectrum. Florida law enforcement officials have told you that they have experienced radio spectrum interference that causes garbled communications and can prevent public safety officials from doing their jobs.

I enclose copies of recent letters from the Florida Highway Patrol, the Florida Police Benevolent Association, and the Florida Police Chiefs Association, all of which support the 800 MHz "Consensus Plan" as the solution to resolve the current situation while providing additional spectrum to the public safety community.

This matter has been before the Commission for nearly two years as part of an ongoing rulemaking proceeding, while interference with critical first responder radio communications is increasing.

I join with our public safety and law enforcement officials in urging the Commission to take action now on this issue. We depend on our law enforcement community every day, and it is critical that their communications be clear and unimpeded.

Sincerely,